

Filed for intro on 02/03/2000

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 436  
By Hargrove

A RESOLUTION to recognize and thank Officer Doug Rich of the Indianapolis Police Motorcycle Drill Team for outstanding service.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the elected representatives of the state of Tennessee should pause to pay tribute to those exemplary citizens who have given unselfishly of themselves, their time and their talents to perpetuate the public good; and

WHEREAS, one such remarkable person is Officer Doug Rich of the Indianapolis Police Motorcycle Drill Team, who, on Sunday, January 16, 2000, lent his invaluable service to the Governor of the state of Tennessee, Don Sundquist, the Honorable Jere L. Hargrove and the Honorable Randy Rinks while they were en route to the RCA Dome for the football game between the Indianapolis Colts and the victorious Tennessee Titans; and

WHEREAS, Officer Rich escorted the Governor and Representatives from the Indianapolis International Airport to the RCA Dome on his police motorcycle; and

WHEREAS, while driving, Officer Doug Rich stood up on his motorcycle, simultaneously spreading both hands out, and drove through the middle of traffic. He motioned the Indianapolis

HJR0436

01016920

traffic to each shoulder of the road and led the Tennessee officials' car as they drove through the middle of the Indiana motorists all the way to the game; and

WHEREAS, such work is nothing to this distinguished policeman, who is a stalwart, ten-year member of the Indianapolis Police Motorcycle Unit as well as the Indianapolis Police Motorcycle Drill Team; he performs the "Split the Rail Maneuver" during drill team performances, which entails standing on his moving motorcycle with arms outstretched, riding through the oncoming lines of motorcycles; and

WHEREAS, as a member of the police motorcycle unit drill team, Officer Doug Rich has participated in numerous major events since joining the team in 1990, and has escorted the President of the United States twice during his illustrious career; and

WHEREAS, the Indianapolis Police Motorcycle Drill Team travels throughout the country, performing in parades, at schools, children's hospitals, nursing homes, and other worthy events; and

WHEREAS, as a testament to their noteworthy abilities, the Drill Team has performed in three Presidential Inaugural Parades, the Citrus Bowl, the Orange Bowl, the Fiesta Bowl, the Kentucky Derby, the Aloha Week Festival Parade in Honolulu, Hawaii, Harley Davidson Regional Rallies across the country, and over thirty American Legion National Convention Parades; and

WHEREAS, while performing their choreographed acts and stunts, each motorcycle carries a letter that can be positioned to spell "Indianapolis" or "Indiana"; and

WHEREAS, ably commanded by Lieutenant Jim Taylor, the Indianapolis Police Motorcycle Drill Team consists of twenty motorcycle officers, who are full-time police officers, and who perform with the same motorcycles used in their daily patrol; and

WHEREAS, for the past 46 years, the members of the Motorcycle Drill Team have served as goodwill ambassadors for the City of Indianapolis, the State of Indiana, and law enforcement officials around the country; and

WHEREAS, it is not often that a man of Officer Doug Rich's stature walks among us, and it is important that we honor him for his strong character, selfless good works, and astute service; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we do hereby honor and commend Officer Doug Rich of the Indianapolis Police Motorcycle Drill Team for his unflagging dedication to the safety of the good people of Indiana, and all who travel Indiana's highways, including that of Tennessee Governor Don Sundquist and State Representatives Jere Hargrove and Randy Rinks, and extend to Officer Rich and the Indianapolis Police Motorcycle Drill Team our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.